

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 45-50 as set forth below. A complete listing of the claims and their status follows:

1. (Original) A method of creating a transverse cavity in a bone comprising the steps of:

inserting a tool having a tool body area, into a bone;
activating a blade pivotally mounted in and located in said tool body to swing through an arc defining a transverse cavity;
said transverse cavity having an area larger than said tool body area.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said blade is blunt.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said blade includes a cutting surface.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said transverse cavity is symmetric about a plane defined by the long axis of the blade in its initial position and a line normal to the transverse plane to be created.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said transverse cavity is asymmetric about the vertical axis.

Claims 6-44 (Cancelled)

45. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said blade is mounted on said tool body for rotational motion about a pivot.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said rotational motion of said blade is activated by a push-pull motion.

47. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said blade is defined by a flexible element pivotally mounted to said tool body at a hinge point, said flexible element swinging outwardly upon being activated to define said transverse cavity.

48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein said flexible element is defined by two flexible arms each capable of swinging outwardly in substantially opposite directions.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein said arms are activated for swinging simultaneously.

50. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein said arms are activated for swinging independently.